

CLAIMS

1. A mine support which includes a deformable tubular sleeve, a first material with a first strength characteristic inside, and filling, a first interior portion of the sleeve, and a second material with a second strength characteristic which
5 differs from the first strength characteristic inside, and filling, a second interior portion of the sleeve.
2. A mine support according to claim 1 wherein the first interior portion is adjacent the second interior portion.
3. A mine support according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the first interior portion has a
10 length, in an axial direction of the sleeve, which is greater than the length of the second interior portion in the axial direction of the sleeve.
4. A mine support according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the first interior portion has a length in an axial direction of the sleeve of from 70% to 90% of the axial length of the sleeve.
- 15 5. A mine support according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the first interior portion has a length in an axial direction of the sleeve of from 10% to 30% of the axial length of the sleeve.
6. A mine support according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the first material is a lightweight cementitious mixture.
- 20 7. A mine support according to claim 6 wherein the first material is foamed or aerated concrete.

8. A mine support according to claim 6 or 7 wherein the density of the first material lies in the range of from 1000 to 1100kg/m³.
9. A mine support according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein the second material is a lightweight cementitious mixture.
- 5 10. A mine support according to claim 9 wherein the second material is foamed or aerated concrete.
11. A mine support according to claim 9 or 10 wherein the density of the second material lies in the range of from 800 to 900kg/m³.
- 10 12. A mine support according to any one of claims 1 to 11 wherein the sleeve is made from a material selected from the following: a ductile metal, plastic, fibre, reinforced concrete, resin impregnated paper.
13. A mine support according to claim 12 wherein the sleeve is made from mild steel with a thickness in the range of from 1,6mm to 3,0mm.
- 15 14. A mine support according to any one of claims 1 to 13 wherein the sleeve has an axial length in the range of from 1,5m to 4,5m and a diameter in the range of from 150mm to 600mm.
- 20 15. A mine support which includes a ductile metal sleeve an interior of which is filled with a first aerated cementitious material of a first density which extends over at least 60% of the axial length of the sleeve, and with a second aerated cementitious material of a second density, which is less than the first density, and which fills a remainder of the interior of the sleeve.